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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0590

INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

RUEHROV/AMEMBASSY VATICAN PRIORITY 0797

RUEHMIL/AMCONSUL MILAN PRIORITY 9462

RUEHFL/AMCONSUL FLORENCE PRIORITY 3117

RUEHNP/AMCONSUL NAPLES PRIORITY 3264

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 000872

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR IO/RHS AMY OSTERMEIER

AND DRL/MLGA DANIKA WALTERS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/11/2018

TAGS: EUN PHUM PREL KDEM IT

SUBJECT: ITALY REMAINS FOCUSED ON HOLDING PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE EVENT IN GENEVA

REF: STATE 70829

Classified By: A/Pol M/C Gabriel Escobar, for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) Poloff delivered reftel demarche to MFA Human Rights Office Director Laura Carpinini July 10, after her return from an EU human rights coordinating meeting in Brussels. Carpinini said the EU remains firmly convinced that the event on prisoners of conscience should be held in Geneva, and was frustrated that we remain inflexible on this point. She said Italy remained focused on reaching an agreement that would allow the EU to co-host this event, and was not yet considering co-sponsoring an event in New York on a bilateral basis without a common EU decision to do so. Carpinini said that France had been tasked with providing Washington with more details on the European position on the event in its role as EU President.

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